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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN RUMANIA'S COAL, IRON, AND SULFUR MINES

COAL MINES

INEFFICIENCY AT THE VALEA JIULUI MINES -- Bucharest, Munca, 27 Mar 53

Miners in the Valea Jiului district are producing more and more coal in honor of the Third Congress of Trade Unions. However, the miners are encountering many difficulties, caused not only by the administration of the mines but also by some of the technicians working there. One letter from a local newspaper correspondent tells how the mine-lamp distribution is running very poorly. Miners have to wait a very long time for the lamps before descending into the mine, because the whole labor force is so poorly organized.

Another weakness is the inefficiency of some workers and the poor administration of some chiefs. When shifts change, the men leave their tools and equipment scattered about the mine, some of it even hidden under piles of coal. Thus, miners of the new shift have to spend an hour or more in assembling their equipment. One such incident occurred on the morning of 9 March. Miners of the first shift descended into the mine and found the work sites wholly unprepared. Motors had not been started, and tools were scattered about. Fully 2 hours were required before actual work could start.

DEFICIENCIES AT THE URICANI MINE -- Bucharest, Munca, 24 May 53

Uricani is a new mine, opened since the advent of the new Democratic People's Republic. However, there are a series of shortcomings and shortages. During 1952, the mine did not fulfill its plan, and neither did it fulfill the plan during the first 2 months of 1953. The February plan was fulfilled only 71.7 percent.

One of the most important deficiencies is the weak organization of the labor force. Alexandru Pohoreni, mine director, and Virgil Fatu, former chief engineer of the mine, did not realize the importance of maintaining drifts in

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good order. Mine tunneling was also badly planned. The administration of the mine should have organized special brigades whose sole responsibility should have been the upkeep of drifts. As things stand, numerous rail accidents are taking place because of the poor upkeep of drifts and of underground railroads.

Furthermore, the number of cars is wholly insufficient. Because of improper underground transportation, miners are often delayed in their work. Miners often have to leave the mine as late as 11 o'clock night?. Despite these facts, numerous discarded and forgotten railroad cars are located in a yard adjacent to the mine.

The transportation problem at Uricani is further aggravated by the shortcomings of the Lupeni mines. By an order of I. Moldovan, director of the local coal trust, a new compressor was transported to the Lupeni mines. The parts for this compressor lay in nine railway cars at Lupeni for more than a month without being used. All this time, the nine railway cars could have been put to excellent use at Uricani. Thirty other cars were delayed in the Iscroni railroad station, although they were awaited at Uricani.

The progress of production at Uricani is further hampered by poor supplies of wood and spare parts. The shortage of mine lamps is an added difficulty. Because of this fact, miners of the second shift cannot enter the mine until miners of the first shift have left the mine. There cannot be any change of shifts at the work site, which means the loss of many working hours. It is not surprising to see that of 67 miners' groups, only 21 are surpassing their daily production norms.

The Lupeni Mine Trust is also to blame for the situation at Uricani. Several engineers of the trust visited the Uricani mine but failed to make any suggestions or to offer any assistance whatsoever. The mine draws up one plan, the trust another, and neither of these coincide. Conservation of materials is not progressing at all. Woods of different lengths are generally used in galleries, according to the specifications of the respective work sites. However, all wood arriving at the mines is 6 meters long, even though specifications call for wood of 2 - 4 or 4.5 meters in length. Therefore, the miners have to lose time in cutting the wood to the right dimensions, and the remaining wood is left in the mines to rot and waste.

The enterprise committee is to blame for most of the difficulties mentioned above. The committee is also to blame for the excessive and unexcused absences which take place and for the lack of competition among miners.

Part of the blame also falls on the raion union committee, which has not sent a representative to the mine for the past 6 months, and the Central Committee of the Coal Industry, which has taken no measures for improving the deficiencies.

#### FILIPESTII-DE-PADURE INCREASES PRODUCTION -- Bucharest, Munca, 1 Mar 53

Miners are working in the Filipestii-de-Padure mine, Ploesti Regiune, to complete the 1953 production plan in 11 months. By applying the cyclic-graph method, as well as the Voroshin, Golovin, and Kotlyar methods, all brigades are extracting 1.5 more tons of coal per day than required by the production plan.

#### LUPENI MINE GIVES CASH PRIZES -- Bucharest, Munca, 19 Mar 53

A prize of 500 lei was granted for February to the leading brigade at the Lupeni coal mine. The leading brigade overfulfilled its daily quotas by 98

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percent. These achievements meant not only cash prizes to the workers of the brigade but also a higher rate of pay for those workers gaining the status of Stakhanovite.

Bucharest, Munca, 16 Mar 53

Brigades at the Lupeni mine are producing coal 40 - 50 percent above the plan, month after month. Since the death of Stalin, these figures have increased even further in all sections of the mine.

OITA MINE SURPASSES PLAN -- Bucharest, Munca, 16 Mar 53

The production plan for February at the Oita mine was surpassed by over 16 percent. Several miners received honor diplomas for their individual achievements.

PETRILA MINE ESTABLISHES COMPLEX BRIGADES -- Bucharest, Munca, 13 Mar 53

Two new complex brigades have been established at the Petrila mine, and the mine administration is eagerly watching their progress and organization. A complex brigade represents the latest form of labor organization, as adapted from Soviet methods.

During the first week in March, these two brigades exceeded their norms by more than 37 percent. The method which these brigades use is as follows: drillers bore holes for blasting in the first drift, timbermen install props in the second drift, and loaders work in the third drift. Thus, three functions formerly performed one at a time are now done simultaneously. In this manner, the complex brigade can achieve remarkable results by cooperating in its work.

BONUS PAYMENTS AT SORECANI -- Bucharest, Munca, 16 Mar 53

Miners at the Sorecani mine received bonus payments for their outstanding work in digging coal quantities above the quotas. Some Stakhanovites received 1,856 lei. The total amount of money paid to Sorecani miners was 245,200 lei.

IMPROVE SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF VALEA JIULUI MINERS -- Bucharest, Munca, 16 Mar 53

Miners of the Valea Jiului district are benefiting from new homes, new schools, and numerous night sanatoriums. The first of these sanatoriums was established at the Lupeni mine.

ROVINARI LIGNITE MINES -- Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 16 Jan 53

Miners at the Rovinari Lignite mines in Targu-Jiu Raion are engaging in competitions to raise production. More than 60 percent of the miners are applying the Soviet Golovin, Kotlyar, and Voroshin methods.

#### IRON MINES

SUCSESSES AT GHEIAR IRON MINES -- Bucharest, Viata Sindicala, 21 Feb 53

In the second half of 1952, a total of 27.60 percent more miners entered labor competitions than during the first half of the same year. Average

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individual production was increased by 20.34 percent above the norms, while the cost of coal [sic] was reduced by 12.01 percent below state prices. Moreover, the mine administration sent 26 percent more miners to qualification schools than was called for by the plan. All this made it possible for the workers of the Ghelar mines to complete their 1952 plan in 11 months and to receive as a reward the Red Banner for production, issued by the Ministry of Metallurgy.

#### SULFUR MINES

DISCOVER NEW SULFUR DEPOSITS IN RUMANIA -- Berlin, Wissenschaft und Fortschritt, Apr 53

Large deposits of sulfur of volcanic origin were discovered recently in the Vatra-Dornei area. Investigation thus far has revealed an easily exploitable strata of approximately 2,000 tons, lying just below the surface. Up to now, the only noteworthy deposits of sulfur in Europe have been in Silesia.

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